

APPLY AND TRY



Jackson Meyer, pictured, an Eagle Scout from Fort Clatsop District's Troop 642, is on the Season 7 premiere of "American Ninja Warrior," which airs at 8 p.m. Monday on NBC, **Laurie Kautz** told the Ear.

If you're among the uninitiated who has never seen the show, several competitors tackle a series of tricky and physically challenging obstacle courses. Monday's episode is the first of the qualifying rounds, and takes place in Venice Beach, Calif. From there, the show travels to four other competition locations before moving to the national finals in Las Vegas.

About Jackson: He graduated from Seaside High School in 2010, and will graduate from Oregon State University in June with majors in fisheries and wildlife and zoology. "He is currently working on a study of the Oregon slender salamander, to help Weyerhaeuser learn the effects of logging on this sensitive species," Laurie posted on the Fort Clatsop Scouts blog (<http://tinyurl.com/BSAninja>)

"It was important to Jackson that he represent Scouting during the competition," she wrote. "He received permission from both the Boy Scouts of America and NBC to wear his Scout uniform on the course in Venice Beach." In fact, NBC liked the uniform idea so much, they filmed Jackson wearing it and saying, "I'm an Eagle Scout," for the trailer promoting Monday's show. You can see it at <http://tinyurl.com/BSAninja2>

"The competition started at 4:30 a.m.," Laurie reported. "Jackson said that he was struck by how much larger the course was than it appears on TV. He was also impressed with how supportive everyone was.

"... When asked what he would remember most about competing, Jackson said it would be knowing a person can do everything they want to. When he applied, he didn't know if he would be accepted, but he applied anyway. His advice for everyone would be: For anything in life, they should 'apply and try.'"

CHEVONNE'S DREAM



Veteran **Jason Karol** and his wife, **Chevonne**, need your help. After Jason medically retired from the service because of degenerative arthritis and joint pain — after 12 years and three tours in Iraq — the couple (pictured) relocated to Warrenton.

Recently, the Karols opened **The Tea Spot**, a bubble tea shop, at 21 N. Columbia St., Suite 101 in Seaside (<http://tinyurl.com/TeaSpot>), the culmination of his Chevonne's dream. "... We do a modern twist on the traditional boba milk tea drink originally created in Taiwan," Jason explained. "We do not do smoothies. We also do Italian sodas, hot chocolate, hot teas, drip coffee and many other drinks."

But things haven't been going as hoped or planned. "Unfortunately, we have been hit with a few setbacks that we didn't foresee," he wrote. "I am asking my family, my friends, and my community to help us with keeping our business open." Want to lend a hand? You can donate at www.gofundme.com/Jason-ChevyTeaShop

Jason is grateful for all the help he can get. "Thank you all who have supported us on this journey," he said.

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT

Boating enthusiasts take note: The U.S. Coast Guard recently released a handy **new boating safety app**, available for both iPhone and android, and it covers a lot of ground. A screenshot of the app is shown.

You can find safety regulations and navigation rules, request a free vessel safety check, file a float plan, find National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration buoys, report hazards, pollution and suspicious activity, get weather reports, and, of course, request emergency assistance — when location services are enabled, the app will call the closest Coast Guard command center.

Interested? You can get it at www.uscg.mil/mobile

There's only one important caveat, according to the website: "The Boating Safety Mobile app was not designed to replace a boater's marine VHF radio, which the Coast Guard strongly recommends all boaters have aboard their vessels. The app was mainly designed to provide additional boating safety resources for mobile device users."

So what are you waiting for?



So what are you waiting for?

In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

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TREASURED TROPHY COMES HOME



Astoria Regatta Past President **Peter Roscoe** received a pleasant surprise the other day when a letter and package arrived from **James F. Cote** of Santa Barbara, Calif., whose mother was a native Astorian, the late **Louise "Franky" Franciscovich Cote**.

"As our family's donation to the Astoria Regatta," James' letter said, "enclosed is a **small trophy** engraved 'Astoria Annual Regatta, 1940, First Girls Swim, Won by Louise Franciscovich.'" The 6.5 inch trophy (with nary a dent) is shown, along with a photo of his mother, taken at the beach near the Seaside Turnaround, circa 1940.

Also enclosed in the package was Franky's obituary, which mentioned her being the only female page in the Oregon Senate in 1942, earning her private pilot license at the age of 20, playing golf regularly until she was 85 (she had seven holes-in-one), and many other accomplishments, including being an elementary school teacher for 47 years in California.

Yet, Astoria was always in her heart. The Regatta swimming trophy James sent, "was won by our mother when she was 14 years old," he wrote, "and was obviously treasured by her, as she kept it among her possessions from that time until her recent death at age 88."

"Being involved in Astoria's Regatta is rewarding in and of itself, just for the celebration and the interaction with other festivals that visit us," Peter noted. "When a gift like this comes from out of nowhere, and dates back over 70 years, it is hard to describe how deeply it affects you. It truly connects you with the history of both Astoria and the Regatta."

SNIPPETS

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Astoria yelps: The city of Astoria is featured on the May 13 Weekly Yelp page, "The Road to Astoria" (<http://tinyurl.com/astyelp>): "Come for The Goonies House and the sea lions, but stay for the food, drink, and Pacific Northwest maritime culture!"

For those of you who don't know what Yelp.com is, it's an online review site, and many businesses read it and take the their customers' remarks seriously. Several locales around town were checked out, even the Astoria Column (113 reviews), but the hottest spot was Bowpicker Fish & Chips (246 reviews).

Most adorable?: Well, the folks at ABC News are reporting that Cannon Beach is No. 8 among "The 8 Most Adorable Beach Towns in the US" (<http://tinyurl.com/adorableCB>).

"If you're looking for more of a quiet escape than a party-filled getaway," the article says, "we've rounded up eight quaint beach cities that not only ooze charm, but also provide enough to do and see to keep travelers happy."

Of Cannon Beach specifically, the writer says, "... The quaint (there's that word again) locale is easily walkable and ample places for hiking and panoramic vistas are nearby." But we already know that, don't we?

Vive L'Astoria: Bet you didn't know the punk rock vs. skin-heads murder and mayhem movie "Green Room" (www.facebook.com/greenroomthefilm), which was partially filmed in Astoria, is being shown at the **Cannes Film Festival**, which is taking place now. Is this a first for Astoria?

"I know we have had various Academy Award winners and nominees work in Astoria, but a film totally or partially shot here in Astoria, shown at the Cannes Film Festival — No.," Astorian **Jerry Olson** (who is wise in all things Astoria/film related) told the Ear. "No, not even the 'The Goonies' ... This is interesting, however. (Star) **Patrick Stewart** must have pulled off some amazing acting." We'll have to wait and see if that's true; the movie hasn't been released in the U.S., yet.

YOUR SCIENCE TEACHER WAS WRONG



Fellow marine biology fans, it's no longer safe to assume that all fish are cold-blooded. According to a story in USA Today, the **opah** (or moonfish), who lives deep in the Pacific Ocean, has recently been found to be the first **warm-blooded fish** (<http://tinyurl.com/warmopah>). Pictured, a screenshot of an opah from a USA Today video.

We're not talking about a dainty little fish, either. The opah, which does not swim in schools, weighs in at around 100 pounds, is 3 feet wide, and has been known to grow up to 6 feet long. And, unlike its cold-blooded, slow-moving deep sea neighbors, its warm blood allows the opah move at a sprightlier pace.

"Researchers from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration determined that unlike other fish, opah generate heat as they swim and distribute the warmth throughout their entire disc-shaped bodies by special blood vessels," the article says. "Special 'counter-current heat exchangers' in their gills minimize heat loss, allowing the deep-water predators to keep their bodies several degrees above the water temperature 250 feet down."

"There has never been anything like this seen in a fish's gills before," biologist **Nick Wegner**, lead author of the NOAA report, declared.

ASTORIA'S MR. CLEAN



I recently caught sight of a **helpful citizen** putting his hand to work to wash a speed sign," **Emily Jean Campbell** of Warrenton wrote to the Ear. "It's been hard to read the signs in the area for a while, so it was nice to see him volunteering his time to give it a scrub."

Shown, her photo of him busily brightening a sign on U.S. Highway 30, a little east of 37th Street. It's easy to see what a difference his good deed makes.

"He opted to remain anonymous," she added, "but I hear he always has a smile on his face, and a helpful hand for anyone in need."

AN ASTORIA EXPERIENCE



I've been consulting with the Astoria Music Festival since 2014 and I live in Portland, so I've been a frequent visitor to Astoria by car," **Linda Magee**, pictured inset, wrote. (FYI, she served as the Astoria Music Festival's interim managing director, and helped hire **Carol Shepherd** as its first full-time managing director last November.)

"Last Monday I got to come by ship, the **Regatta** of the Oceania cruise line," Linda explained. "My mother and I boarded in San Francisco for a cruise to Alaska, and our first port was Astoria. It was fun taking her sightseeing to show her around town.

"Knowing about Astoria's ace bar pilots, I was especially fascinated to watch the dramatic departure of **Capt. Bill Black** from the deck of our ship, after he helped guide us back out to the ocean. I snapped this photo (shown) with my iPhone while he was being applauded by all of us on deck. It was a truly wonderful Astoria experience!"

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

Astoria Flying Club — 9 a.m. special meeting, Astoria Regional Airport main office, 1110 Flightline Drive, Warrenton. After meeting Allen Sprague and John Seamans are offering rides to any and all interested in flying. For information, go to Astoria Flying Club on Facebook, call 503-338-9306 or email AstoriaFlyingClub@hotmail.com

Angora Hiking Club — noon, 376 S. Denver St. Spring potluck. For information, call Bob Westenberg at 503-325-4315.

Columbia Northwestern Model Railroad Club — 1 p.m., in Hammond. Group runs trains on HO-scale layout. For information, call Don Carter at 503-325-0757.

SUNDAY

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Support Group — 2 to 3:30 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway. Family to

Family Support Group, for anyone with friend or loved one suffering from a serious brain (mental) illness. For information, contact Myra Kero at 503-738-6165, or k7erewood@q.com, or go to www.nami.org

Line Dancing — 5:30 to 8 p.m., Seaside American Legion, 1315 Broadway. For information, call 503-738-5111. No cost; suggested \$5 tip to the instructor.

MONDAY (MEMORIAL DAY)
Senior Lunch — No lunch served Monday.

Columbia Senior Diners — No lunch served Monday.

Warrenton Senior Lunch Program — No lunch served Monday.

Astoria Rotary Club — No meeting.

Knockers Pinochle Group — No meeting.

Line Dancing for Seniors — 6 to 7:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center,

temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

TUESDAY

Do Nothing Club — 10 a.m. to noon, 24002 U St., Ocean Park, Wash. Men's group. For information, call Jack McBride at 360-665-2721.

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation of \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Diners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. The cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Astoria Lions Club — noon, Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Prospective members welcome.

For information, contact Charlene Larsen at 503-325-0590.

Warrenton Kiwanis Club — noon, Dooger's Seafood and Grill, 103 U.S. Highway 101, Warrenton. For information, call Darlene Warren at 503-861-2672.

Line Dancing for Seniors — 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Spinning Circle — 3 to 5 p.m., Astoria Fiber Arts Academy, 1296 Duane St. Bring a spinning wheel. For information, call 503-325-5598 or go to <http://astoriafiberarts.com>

WEDNESDAY

Help Ending Abusive Relationship Tendencies — 10 to 11:30 a.m., The Harbor, 1361 Duane St. HEART covers subjects related to the effects of domestic violence on children, parents and other family

members, dynamics of power and control, and how to recognize red flags. For anyone in an abusive relationship, or who knows someone who is. Call Audrey Williams ahead to reserve a spot at 503-325-3426, ext. 104.

Open Sewing Gathering — 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Home-spun Quilts, 108 10th St. For information, call 503-325-3300 or 800-298-3177 or go to <http://home-spunquilt.com>

Wickup Senior Lunches — 11:30 a.m., Wickup Grange Hall, 92683 Svensen Market Road. Free for those older than 60 (\$3 suggested donation), \$6.75 for those younger than age 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

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Columbia Senior Diners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. The cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Blood Pressure Checks — noon to 2 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

International Longshore and Warehouse Union Pensioners — noon luncheon, 1 p.m. meeting, Local No. 50 Longshore Hall, 491 Industry St.

Lower Columbia Chief Petty Officers Association — 1 p.m., Astoria Moose Lodge, 420 17th St. For information, call Dave Kinney at 415-827-5190.

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